

## junior year 1950 - 1951

WE CAME BACK for our third year to a campus considerably depressed by the outbreak of the Korean War. The draft menaced; many fled to advanced ROTC and, some, rather than postpone the agony, quit school and joined the service. The impending draft brought with it a depressed irresponsibility and a pseudo-gaiety which didn't subside noticeably until the Government announced the deferment exams which took place late in the spring.

The presidential issue came to a head when Acting President deKiewiet accepted the presidency of the University of Rochester. Dr. T. P. Wright took over, and in the short interval of his interim presidency won the respect and admiration of the student body while hot rumors circulated as to who the Trustee's next choice would be. When Neal Dow Becker, Trustee president, arrived on campus simultaneously with Deane W. Malott, the case seemed cinched. His later appointment brought much speculation, for Cornell had been without a president for over a year.

Frosh hazing was banned by Student Council, who also rejected NSA after a series of fiery battles. The Yanks beat the Phillies to claim the World Series, and the night that WSGA met in Bailey, the moon went into a total eclipse. The cold clinic averaged 150 patients a day in the early fall, and the football team suffered a lashing by a great Princeton eleven featuring Dick Kazmaier, only to come back to deal a death-blow to Penn in the annual Tranksgiving classic, played that year in a driving storm.

At our return from Thanksgiving, we were startled to find the campus being picketed by members of the local AFL Building Service Workers Union. The strike lasted a heated eleven days while the Student Council and the I&LR students tore their own and each other's hair, until finally the Trustees handed down a memorandum guaranteeing to the strikers the right to have union officials appear for them at grievance procedures.

Cornellians admitted to vandalism at Syracuse University; SC began investigation of the cheating problem; Daiches announced his resignation; and a loss of \$914.05 was reported by the Fall Weekend Committee.

The Sun recorded all in one issue the attempted assassination of Truman by two Puerto Ricans, the

proclamation by Pius XII of the assumption of the Virgin as an article of faith, and the death of George Bernard Shaw. Shortly thereafter Pogo decisively won a popularity poll over a passé Bugs Bunny.

The Greater Cornell Fund somehow reached its goal of \$12,500,000, the renovation of Sage Hall was begun, and Cascadilla was turned back into a women's dorm.

Basketball scandals found several collegiate players somewhat tainted, but the Big Red, unscathed, managed to win 20 out of 25 games, setting an all-time point record.

Farm and Home Week attracted a crowd of 16,000, but the Apollo Contest attracted no one because it had been officially banned by the Administration, and we all went home to recuperate while Kefauver got a record Gallup rating and Frank Costello just got a record.

We came back from vacation to a campus much grieved and shocked by the sudden death of President Emeritus Edmund E. Day: Cornell had lost a great man and a great friend.

Officials cracked down on gambling in Ithaca, denying many students their after-hours sojourns. Meanwhile U.S. troops crossed the 38th parallel in Korea, and shortly thereafter Truman recalled MacArthur in "an effort to avoid World War III". General Ridgway succeeded him as Supreme Commander as strains of "Old Soldiers Never Die" flooded the juke boxes and radios, and people threw tons of paper into the New York streets.

By that time it was spring in earnest, and with spring came countless "weeds" parties. It also brought campus elections and a new set of top wheels: John Lankenau became head of Student Council, and Pat Thornton and Jim Gibbs were elected class presidents.

The death of Arthur Vandenburg and the execution of Willie McGee stirred the national pulse, while on the campus 1,575 anxious men took the draft deferment exam and then catapulted into a dizzy Spring Weekend. It was the "sense of the faculty that any member advocating violent overthrow of the government could be dismissed", and on a sunny Monday 1200 seniors received their Cornell degrees while the class of '52 went spinning off into various spheres of activity to tune up for their final year.